Cleaning & Lubing your Model Railroad

Labelle Lubricants – If it moves, Lube it!

Why Lube?

- Improve performance
- Slow wear – extend life of the component

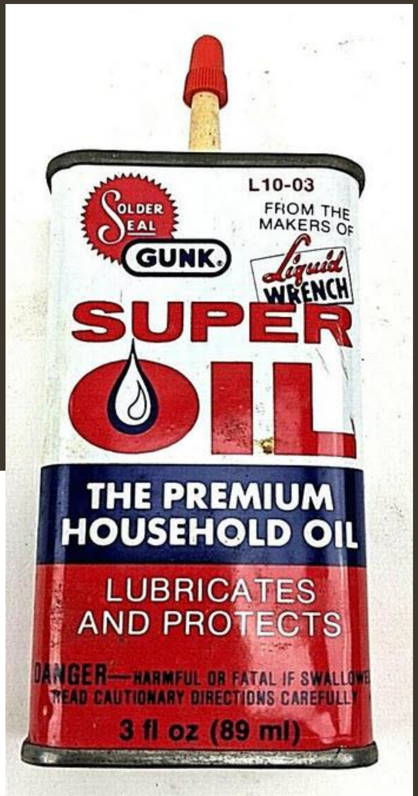
Why Do You Lube?

- If it moves, Lube it!

Which Lube(s) do you use?















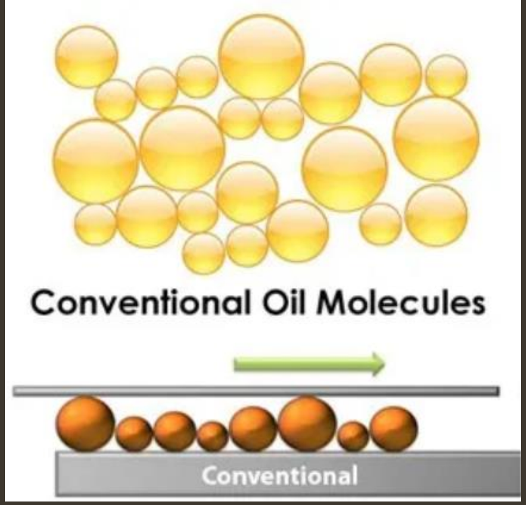


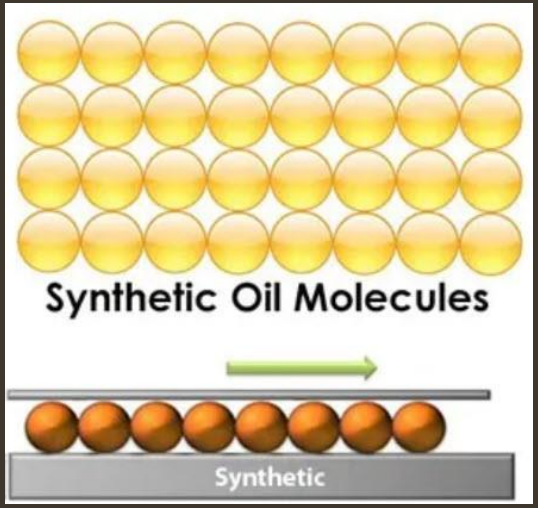
What Qualifies as a good Lube?

- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Right Viscosity
- Right for the Job

Why Synthetic Oil?

- Conventional Oil vs Synthetic Oil
  - Convention Oil – multi-molecule size
  - Synthetic Oil – uniform molecule size; better lubricant





- Synthetic Oil offers better protection and higher operation temperatures
  - * DriveSafe Online - https://www.drivesafeonline.org/vehicle-maintenance/synthetic-vs-conventional-oil/

Locomotive Oils/Greases





- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Lubricants that should be in everyone's Toolbox

Loco Lubing Tool Suggestions









Lubricating Fundamentals

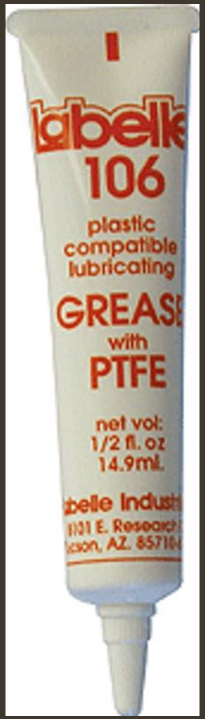
Clean before you lubricate

Use the least amount of lubricate you can and still get the job done

The greater the viscosity, the greater the resistance to flow

Gear Lube & Grease - Specs

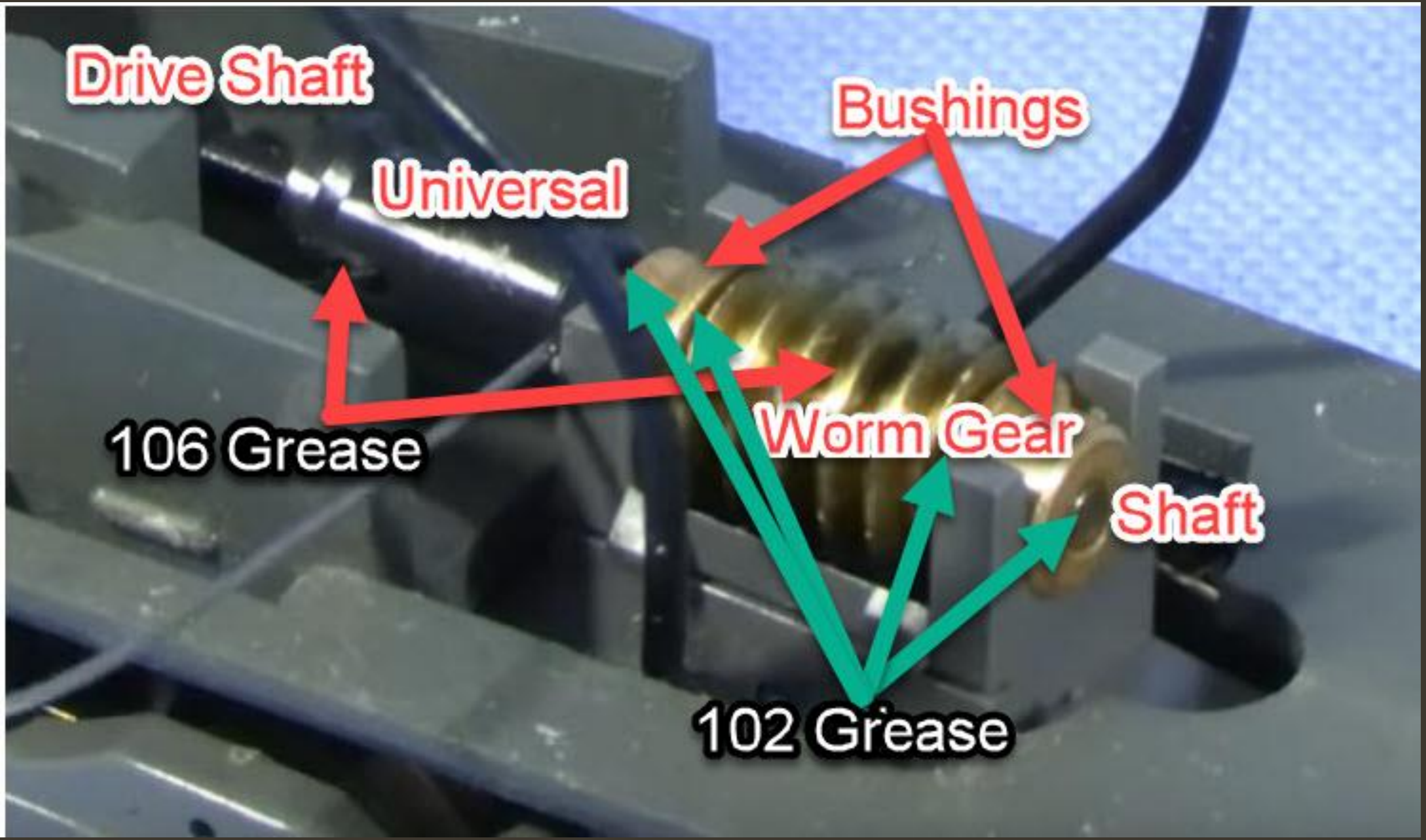




- Grease Grade NLGI “0”
- 102 Viscosity - 150
- Temperature Range -45F° – +450F°
- Food Grade (H1) Approved & Kosher Certified**
- Waterproof, Dielectric
- Superior at low temperatures
- Does not form gummy Deposits
- Environmentally friendly and Biodegradable

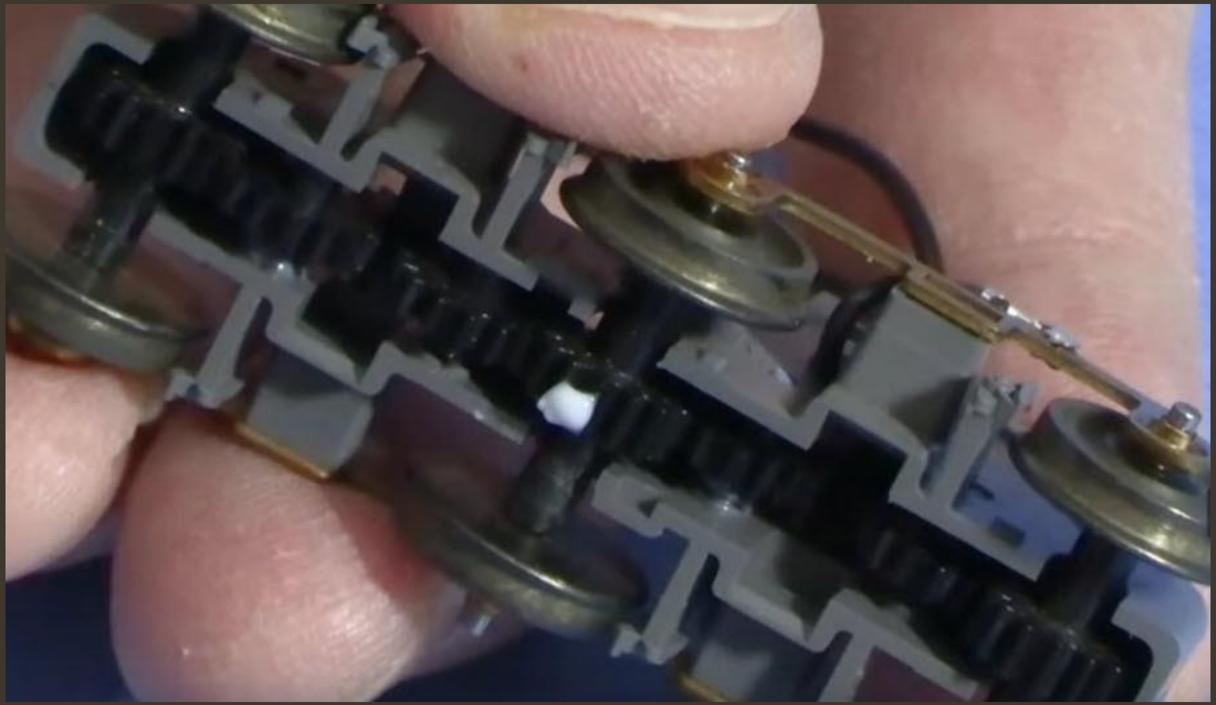
Gear Lube & Grease - con't

- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Labelle #102
  - All Scales
  - Bushings/Bearings
- Labelle #106
  - All Scales
  - Gears

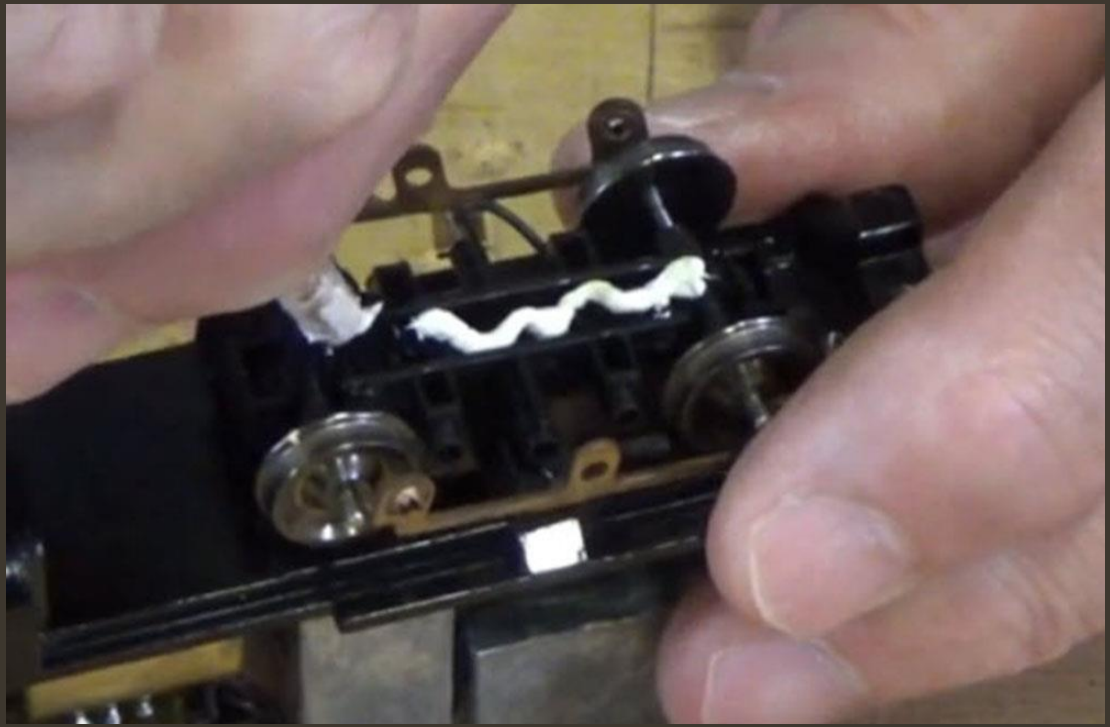


Gear Lube & Grease - con’t

- Do this



Not this



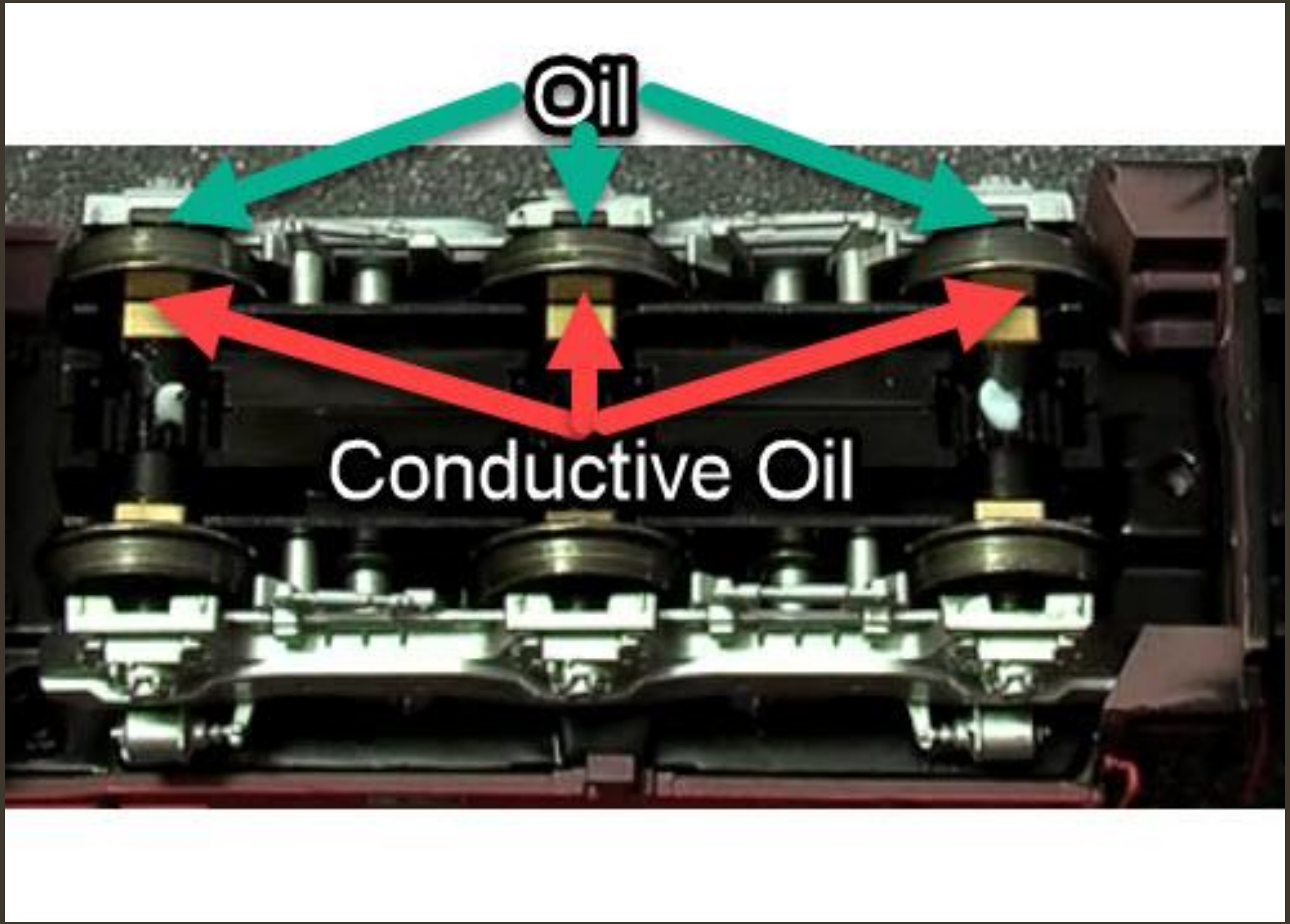
Oil - Specs



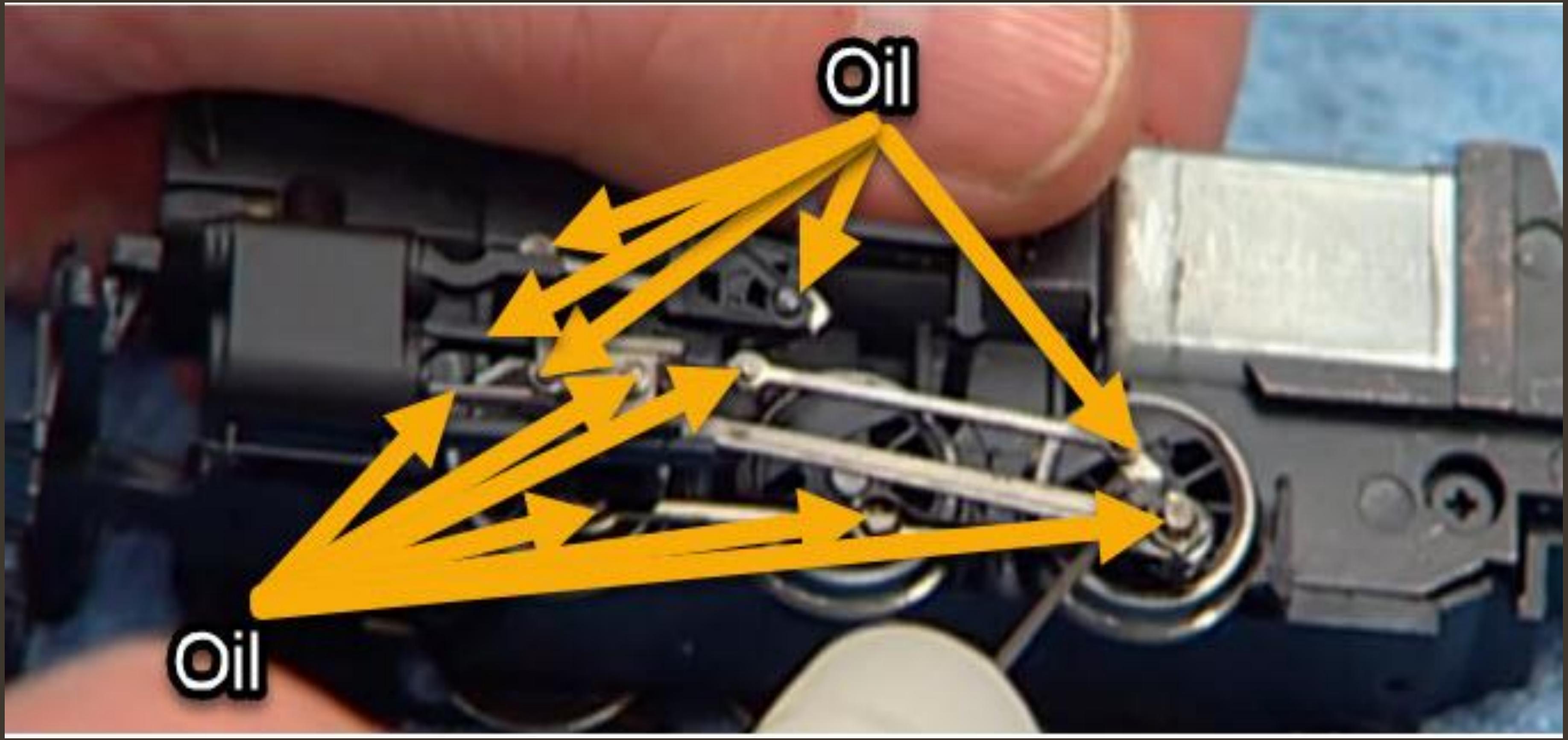
- ISO Grade 68 (SAE 20)
- 107 Viscosity – 68
- 108 Viscosity – 32
- Temperature Range -40F° – +500F°
- Food Grade (H1) Approved & Kosher Certified
- Waterproof
- Dielectric – will conduct electricity
- Superior at low temperatures
- Environmentally friendly and Biodegradable

Oil - Bearings and Bushings

- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Conductive Oil
- Labelle #107
  - HO, S, O or larger
- Labelle #108
  - HO, N, Z



Oil - Bearings and Bushings - con't



- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Conductive Oil
- Labelle #107
  - HO, S, O or larger
- Labelle #108
  - HO, N, Z

Handy Truck Tools



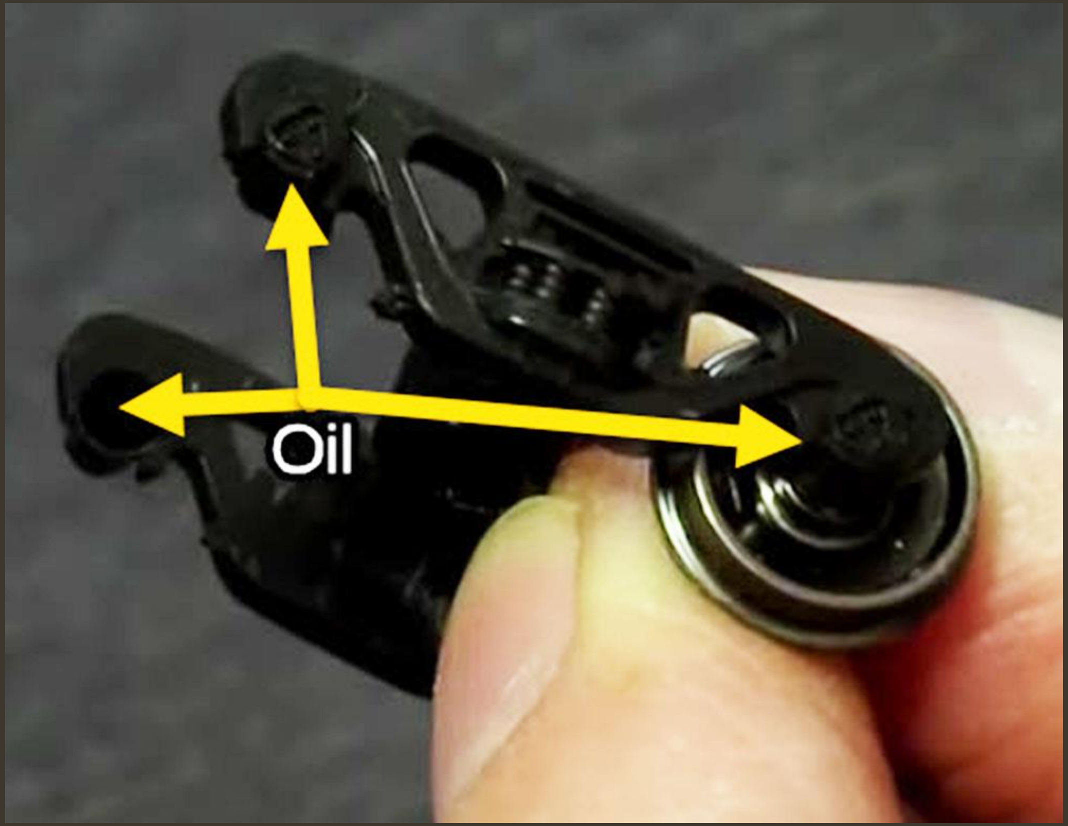


Freight/Passenger Truck Lube





- **Plastic friendly**
- **Synthetic Oil**
- **Used 134 in place of graphite**
- **Better choice 107**



Coupler Lube

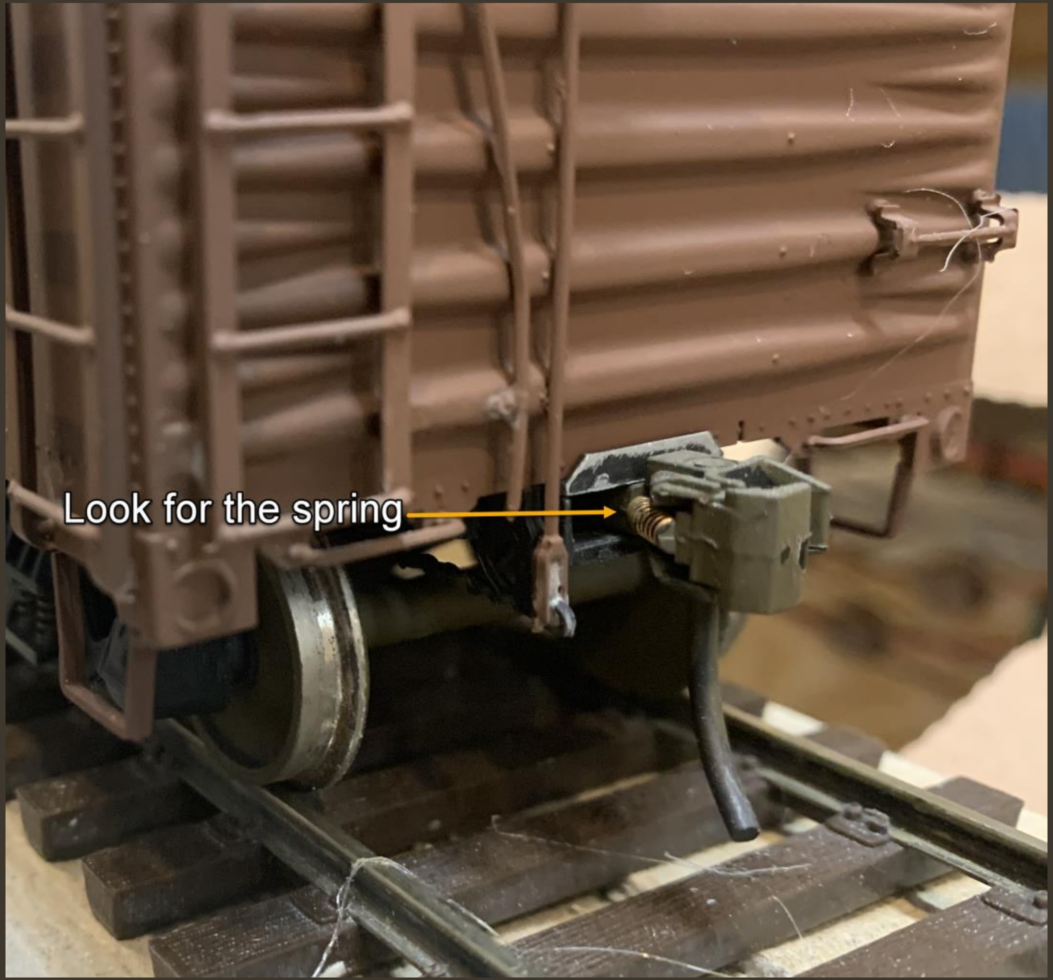


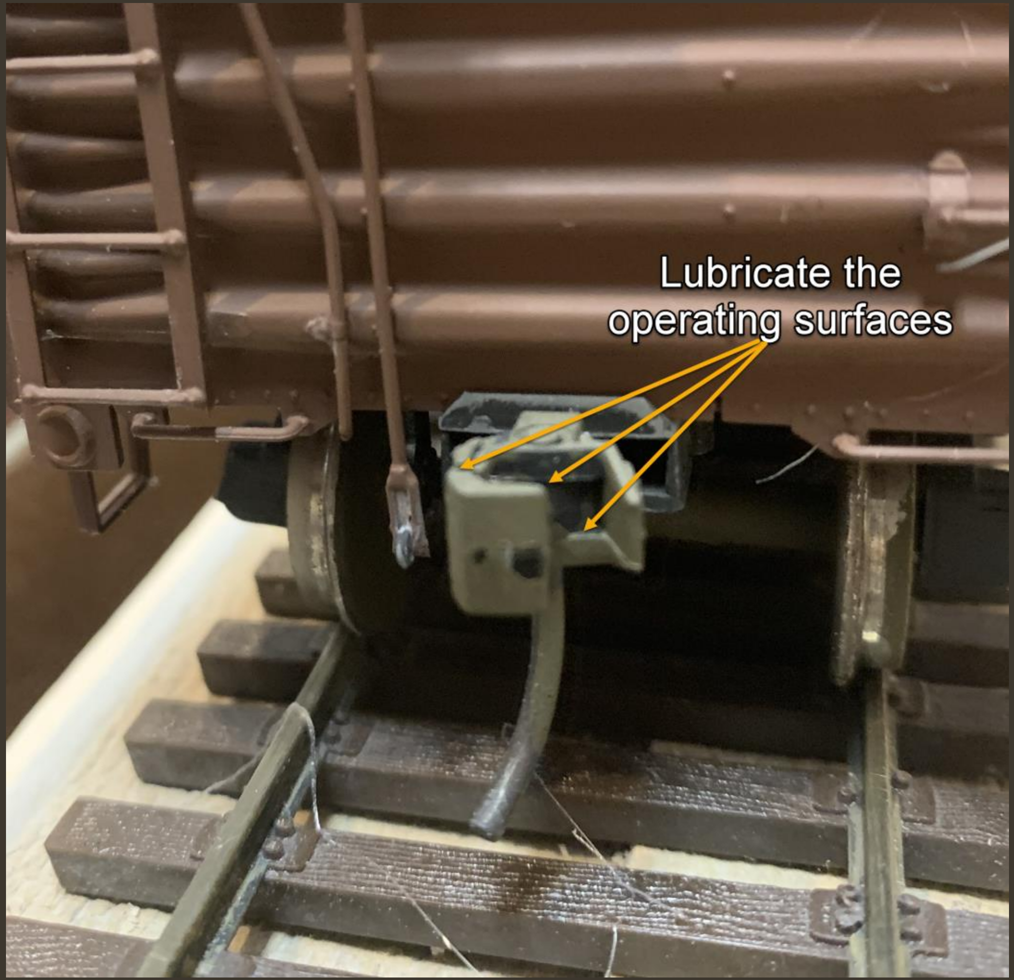


- **Plastic friendly**
- **Synthetic Oil**
- **Labelle #112**
  - **HO, N, & Z**
  - **Viscosity 40**
- **Labelle #113**
  - **S, O, & Larger**
  - **Viscosity 60**

Oops: Knuckle

Coupler Lube - con’t

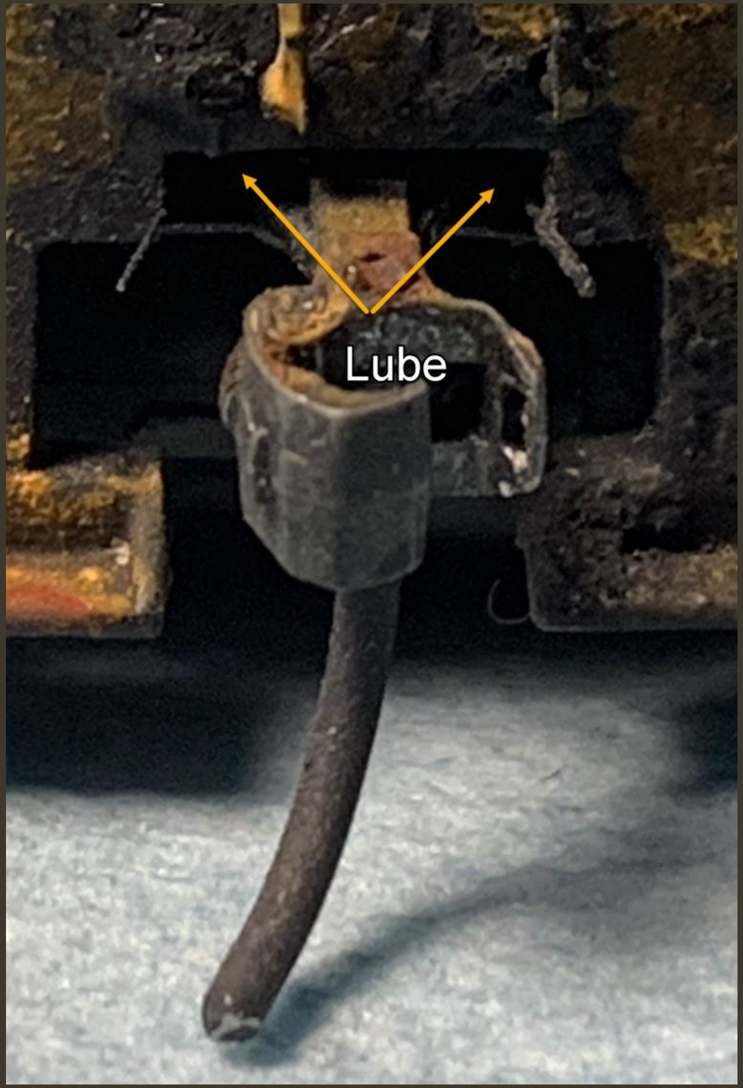




Coupler Box Lube



- Plastic friendly
- Powered PTFE
- Labelle #134
- Use in place of graphite
- Lube where the coupler shaft slides
- Lube the coupler pivot shaft



Motor Lube Goal

- **Prevent oxidation**
- **Improve electrical contact**













Motor Lubing

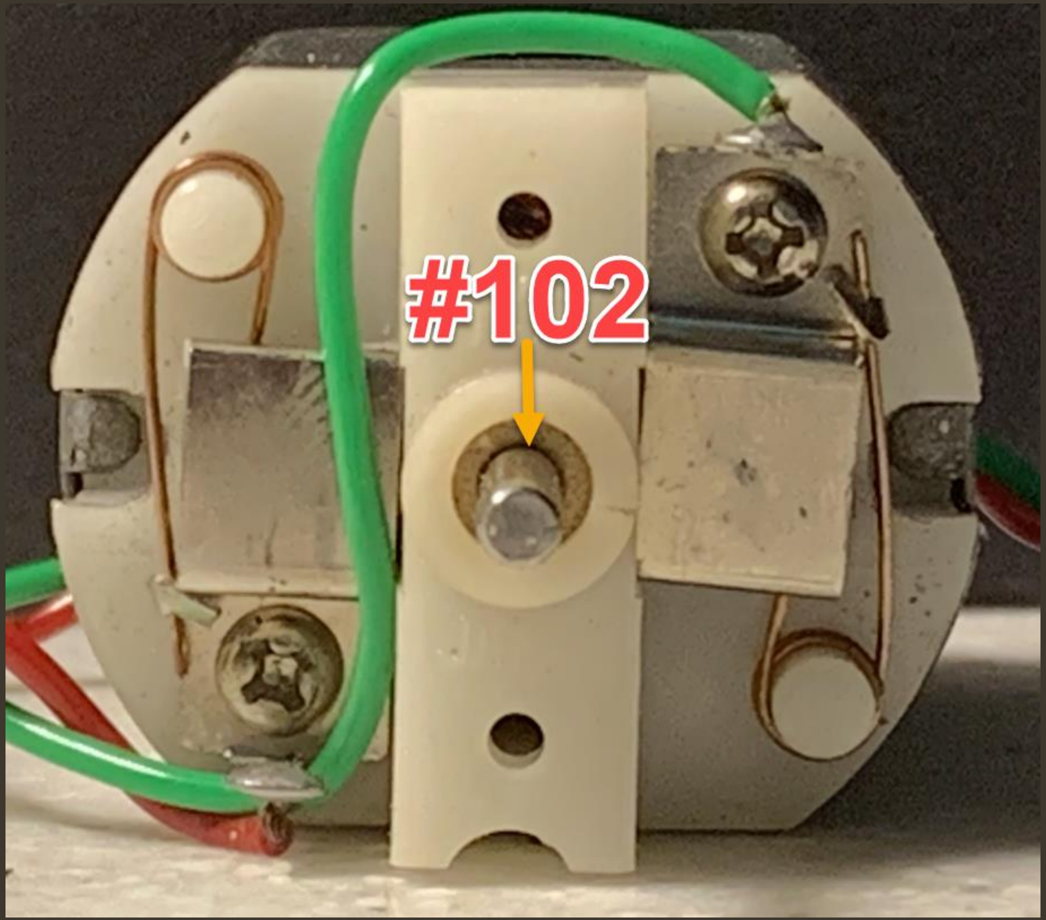




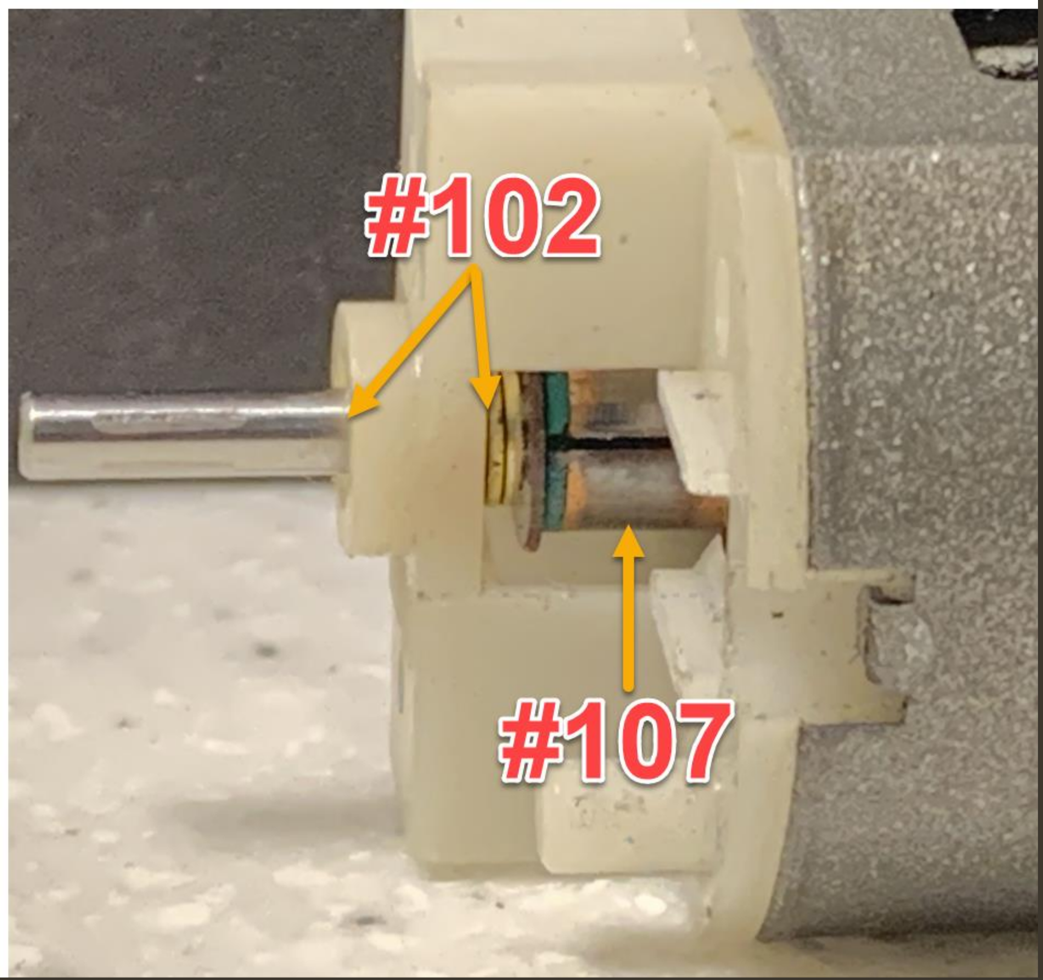
- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Dielectric
- Labelle #102
  - Shaft bearings/bushings
  - Viscosity 150
- Labelle #107
  - Commutator/brushes
  - Viscosity 68

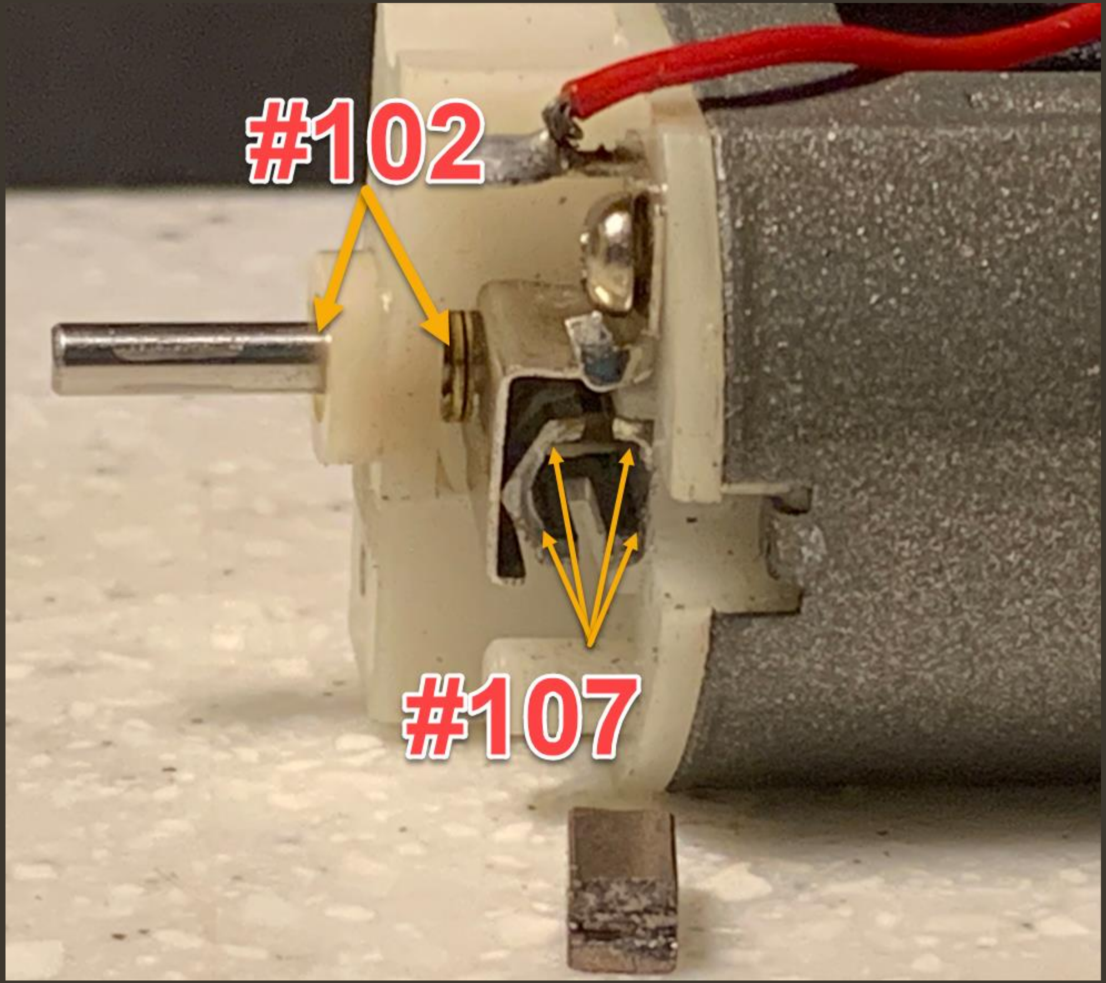
Motor Lubing - con’t





Motor Lubing - con't





Switch Point Lube Goal

- **Prevent oxidation**
- **Improve electrical contact**









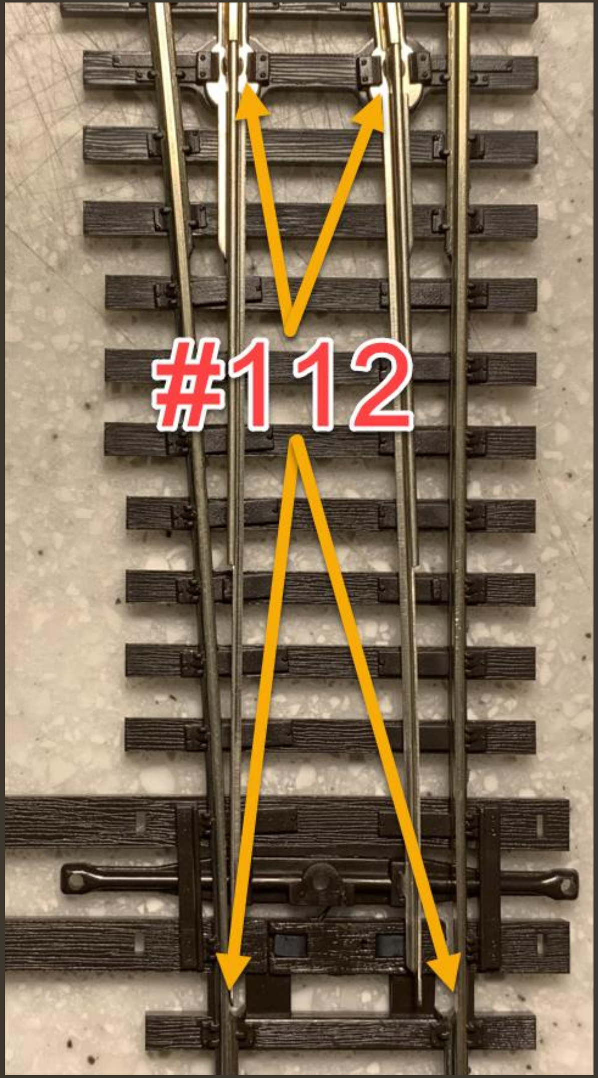
Switch Point Lube





- Plastic friendly
- Synthetic Oil
- Dielectric
- Labelle #112
  - Indoors
  - Viscosity 40
- Labelle #113
  - Outdoors
  - Viscosity 60

Switch Point Lube - con't



Track Cleaners

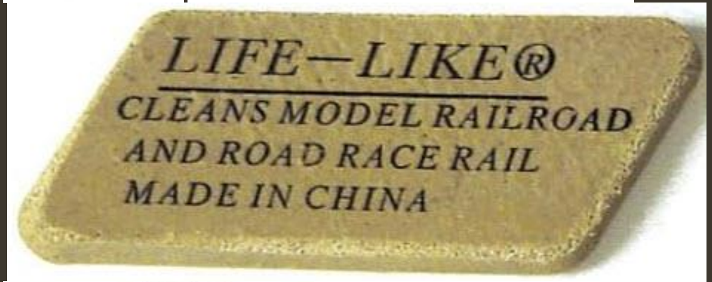






- Mineral Spirits
- Acetone
- Graphite Sticks
- Cleaning Systems
- Erasers





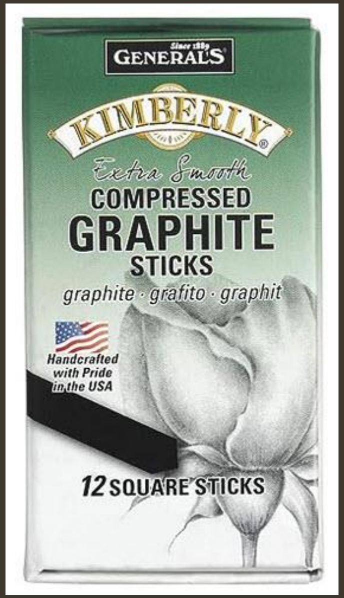






Track Cleaning Goal

- **Prevent oxidation**
- **Improve Electrical Contact**







Track Cleaning



- **Plastic friendly**
- **Synthetic Oil/Cleaner**
- **Non-slip**
- **Dielectric**
- **Labelle #105**

Track Cleaning – con’t

- **Use a lint free patch or rag to lightly coat track**
- **Wipe clean using a lint free patch or rag**
- **Once clean, Use a lint free patch or rag to lightly coat track**
- **Don’t forget tunnels, bridges, or other hidden track like staging yards**
- **You can use the wheels of your train to distribute cleaner**

Q & A